

From: Elgin S. Perry, Ph. D.
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/10/01 8:28pm
Subject: micro\$oft

Dear sirs:

I am pleased to see the a requirement in the settlement agreement that:

Disclosure of Middleware Interfaces Microsoft will be required to provide software developers with the interfaces used by Microsoft's middleware to interoperate with the operating system. This will allow developers to create competing products that will emulate Microsoft's integrated functions.

However, I feel that this measure will be ineffective unless Microsoft is also required to maintain these operating system interfaces in a constant state for sufficient time for a competitive market to develop. In the name of innovation, Microsoft has continued to introduce continuous minor changes to their operating systems and other software products so that 3rd party developers can never achieve full compatibility with Microsoft software. Because Microsoft currently enjoys and ill-gotten monopoly, it is not possible to compete without full compatibility. It is my opinion that an industry committee should be formed to establish standards and that Microsoft should be required to adhere to them.

regards, Elgin Perry